

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Dance Pavilion (in Chesapeake Beach Amusement Park)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Dentzel Court

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake Beach

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert**3 CLASSIFICATION****CATEGORY**

___DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)☒ STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

___OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

☒ COMMERCIAL☒ PARK

___EDUCATIONAL

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☒ ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___MILITARY

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CT-986

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Resting on pilings which raised it above the boardwalk, the white clapboard Dance Pavillion is the largest building in the Park complex. It commands a splendid view of the bay. From it, one once had a good view of the old mile-long pier which was the docking point for Baltimore steamships.

There is a basement, a service room on the west end and a small room on the partial third story but the most impressive room is that which contains the dance floor. It is a wide open space measuring 154' x 98'. A rounded arch or gently hipped roof with exposed trusses spans 72' with 13' wide side aisles. The supporting structures are made of wood by laminating eight 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " boards together. A lattice work design fills the spandrels of each arch which are spaced 18' apart. There are large sash windows 24/24 that measure 8' in width and 7' in height. Clerestory lights above these huge windows simply fill the room with light.

The entrance to the Dance Pavillion is an interesting feature. It is a separate wing with a smaller roof that repeats the design of the main roof. The doors are recessed into a series of concentric arches which are decorated with strings of lights.

According to Williams, "W. H. Winston won the contract to build the pier and a pavillian with the understanding that both would be ready for the opening of the 1899 season" (page 35). This project was supervised by Chief Engineer of the Chesapeake Beach Railway, William A. Beerbower. Old photographs indicate that there was another pavillion on the boardwalk and therefore it is unclear which building the quotation refers to. It is possible that this dance pavillion is a later construction although its structural features indicate that it is contemporary with the Carousel Building.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The entire park at Chesapeake Beach was designed with a relationship to the water and for the specific purpose of entertainment. This seems to be especially true of the Dance Pavillion with its large ballroom floor. Enormous windows not only let in light but the cool bay breezes as well. Built on pilings, the Pavillion commands a hilltop view which not only included the bay but the boardwalk and mile long pier as well..

The laminated wooden trusses with lattices, which span the entire width of the ceiling, are an interesting architectural feature and an accomplishment in engineering.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

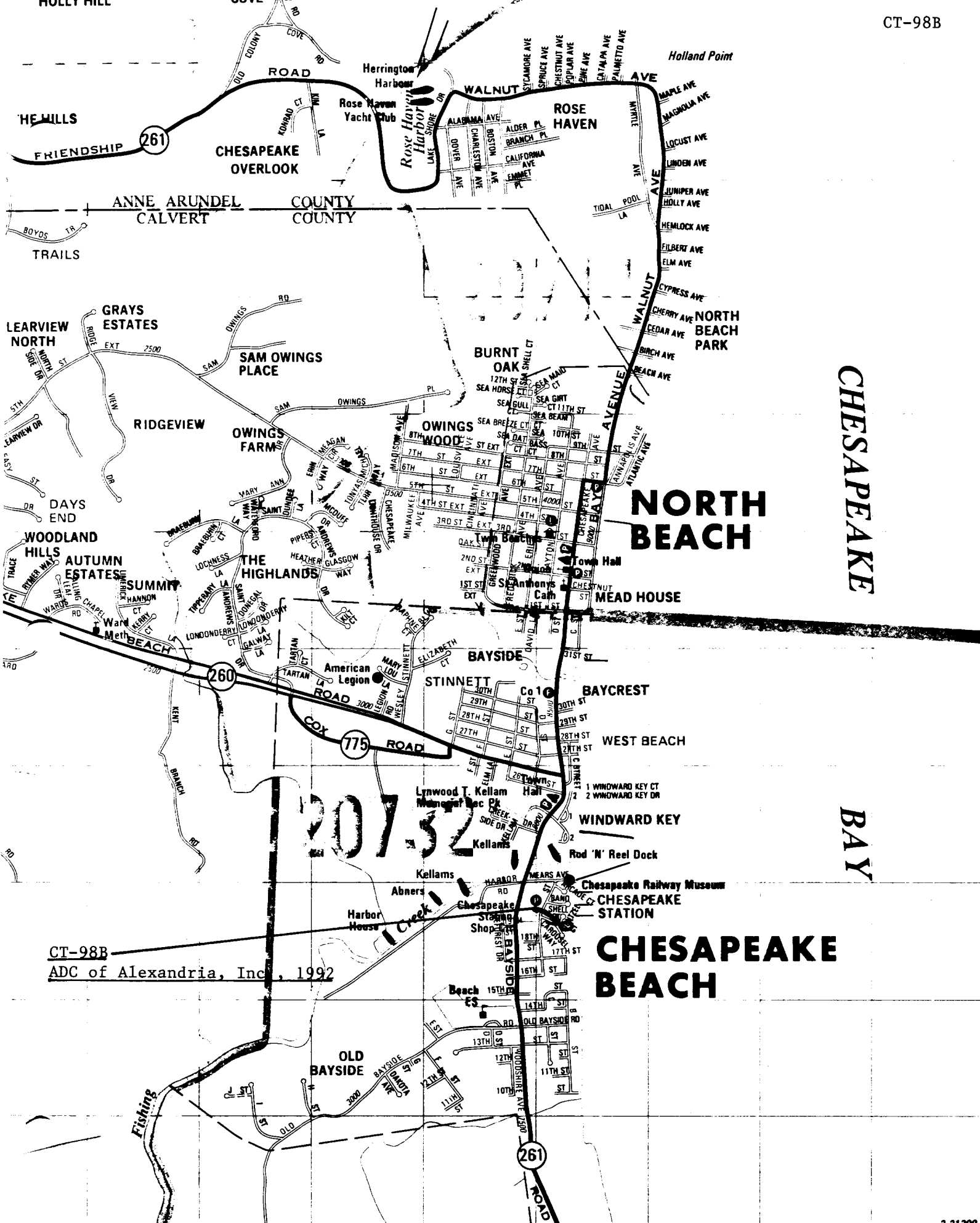
CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



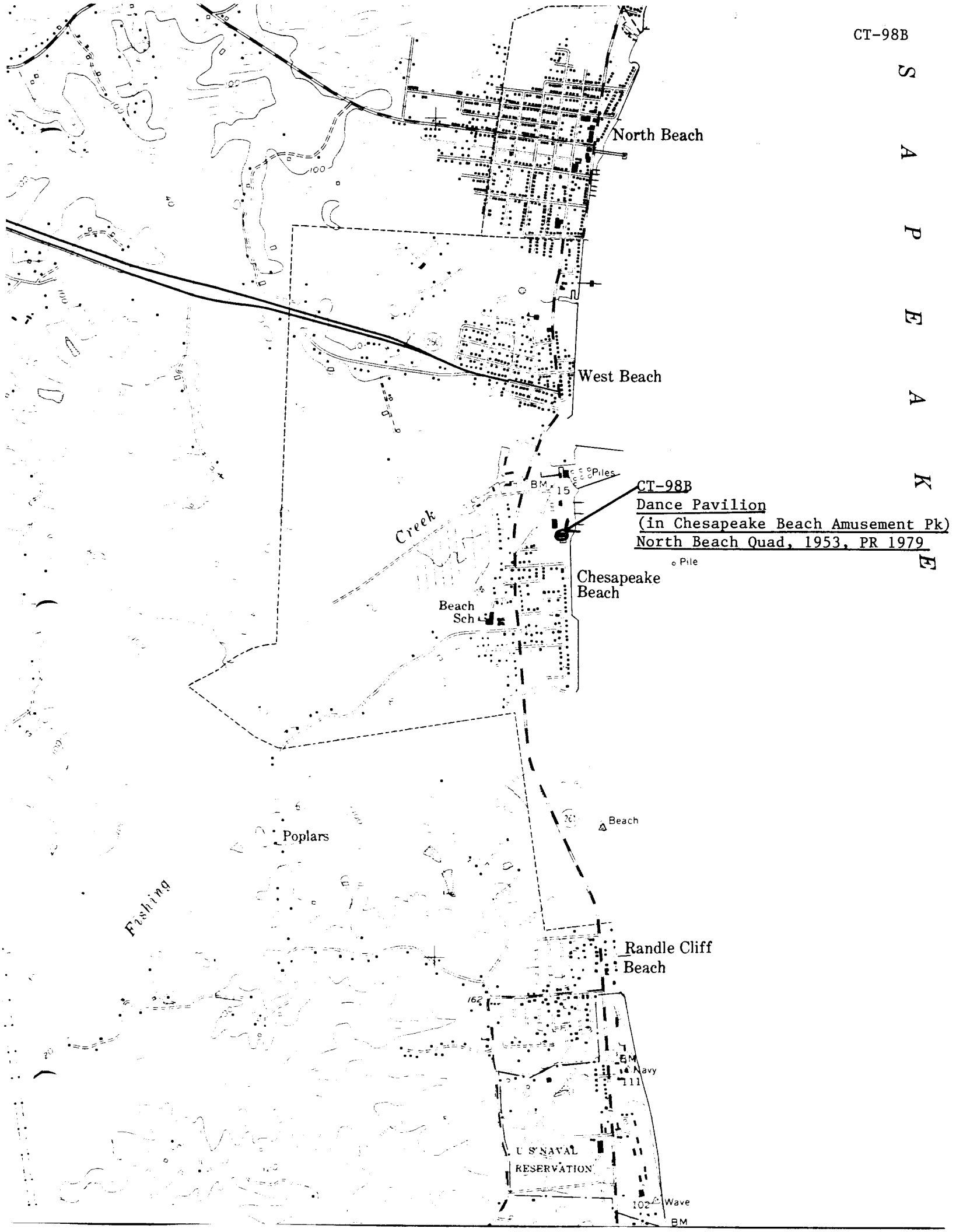
CHESAPEAKE

BAY

CHESAPEAKE BEACH

CT-98B

ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1992



North Beach

West Beach

Creek

CT-98B
Dance Pavilion
(in Chesapeake Beach Amusement Pk)
North Beach Quad, 1953, PR 1979

Chesapeake
Beach

Beach
Sch

Poplars

Fishing

Randle Cliff
Beach

U S NAVAL
RESERVATION

Navy

Wave

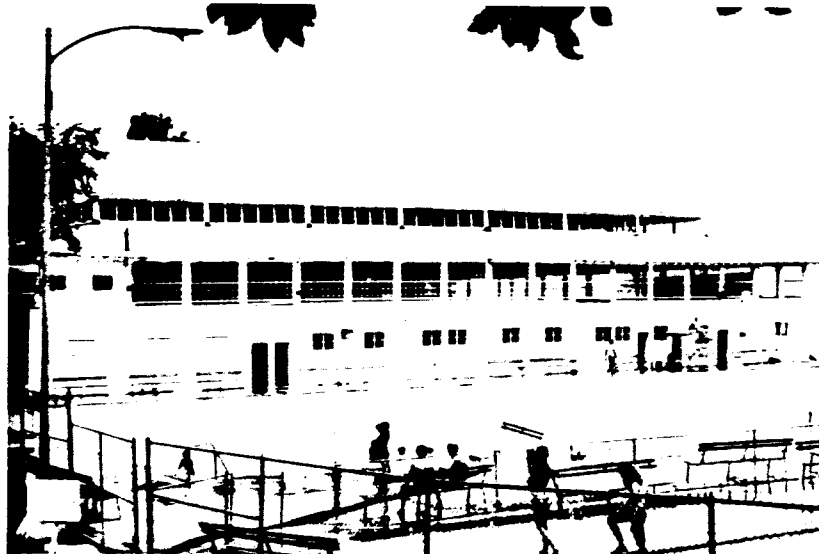
CH RAILWAY



te attraction at Chesapeake Beach



FROM THE WAR TO THE DEPRESSION



Swimming pool and dancehall at Chesapeake Beach, August 1971.

(CT-98B)

No. 5 hauling the afternoon Beach Express approaching the Central Avenue underpass at Seat Pleasant. (Bruce D. Fales)





CT-9PB
Chesapeake Beach Park
B. Dance Pavilion

W.N. 4/76



CT-98B
Chesapeake Beach Park
B. Entrance:
N. Dance Pavilion

W.N. 4/76